

**PATENT** (5181-65400/P4985)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application No.: '09/660,553 Filed: September 12, 2000 Inventor(s): Slaughter et al			SExaminer: Unknown Group/Art Unit: 2152 Atty. Dkt. No: 5181-65400  I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date indicated below.				AECENED TO THE TOP TO	
Title	API RET OF DIS CO	PARAT FURNI	NG	<i>\$\text{\tint{\text{\tint{\text{\tin}\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\tex{\tex</i>	Robert C. Kowert  Name of Registered Representative  LLL Aug. 10, 2001  Signature Date			
		II er for Pa D.C. 2		ISCL(	OSURE STATEM	<u>ENT</u>		
Sir:								
	and/or [	] the a	uests consideration of dditional information Form PTO-1449 is en	ident	ified below in parag			
1.	This I	nformati	on Disclosure Statem	ent is s	submitted:			
	a.		continued prosecuti within 3 months of 1.491 in an Internat before the mailing of	on app the dational a date of of a fir	a first Office Action st Office Action after	(d); onal stage as set to on the merits; or	forth in §	
	b.		final Office Action	on or	paragraph 1a and price Notice of Allowan 2 below is provided,	ice, and thus:	the the	

	c.	after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus: the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.
2.	It is he	reby certified:
		after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus: the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.  The provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.  The paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.  The paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.  The paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.  The paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.  The paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.  The paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.  The paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.  The paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.  The paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.
		that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
3.		Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. applications, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:
4.	For eac	th non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:
	П	reference is made to an English language translation submitted herewith, and/or
		reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or
		reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or
		reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s), and/or
		reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:
5.		Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:
6.		Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.
7.		The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.

8.	Applicant(s) requests that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached
	Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the
	patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned
	application.

If any required fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Conley, Rose & Tayon, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5181-65400.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Kowert Reg. No. 39,255

Attorney for Applicant(s)

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Date: Avg 10, 2001